

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 170**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Reyes**

January 23, 2003

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An act to amend Section 2732.1 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to nursing.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 170, as introduced, Reyes. Nursing: interim permits.

Existing law, the Nursing Practice Act, provides for the licensure and regulation of registered nurses by the Board of Registered Nursing. The act authorizes the board to issue an interim permit to a person whose application for licensure has been approved, allowing the applicant to practice nursing pending the results of his or her examination. Under existing law, if the applicant fails the licensing examination, his or her interim permit is terminated.

This bill would revise these provisions to allow an applicant who has failed the examination to continue practicing nursing under the interim permit, if he or she applies for the next scheduled examination.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 2732.1 of the Business and Professions
- 2 Code is amended to read:
- 3 2732.1. (a) An applicant for license by examination shall
- 4 submit a written application in the form prescribed by the board.

1 Upon approval of the application, the board may issue an  
2 interim permit authorizing the applicant to practice nursing  
3 ~~pending the results of the first licensing examination following~~  
4 ~~completion of his or her nursing course or for a maximum period~~  
5 ~~of six months, whichever occurs first.~~

6 If the applicant passes the examination, the interim permit shall  
7 remain in effect until a regular renewable license is issued by the  
8 board. If the applicant fails the examination, the interim permit  
9 shall ~~terminate upon notice thereof by first-class mail~~ *remain in*  
10 *effect if the applicant submits a written application to take the next*  
11 *scheduled examination.*

12 (b) The board upon written application may issue a license  
13 without examination to any applicant who is licensed or registered  
14 as a nurse in a state, district, or territory of the United States or  
15 Canada having, in the opinion of the board, requirements for  
16 licensing or registration equal to or higher than those in California  
17 at the time the application is filed with the Board of Registered  
18 Nursing, if he or she has passed an examination for the license or  
19 registration that is, in the board's opinion, comparable to the  
20 board's examination, and if he or she meets all the other  
21 requirements set forth in Section 2736.

22 (c) Each application shall be accompanied by the fee  
23 prescribed by this chapter for the filing of an application for a  
24 regular renewable license.

25 The interim permit shall terminate upon notice thereof by  
26 first-class mail, if it is issued by mistake or if the application for  
27 permanent licensure is denied.